



CHARLOTTE FIRE DEPARTMENT
FIRE MARSHAL'S OFFICE
Fire Prevention Bureau

Code/Procedural Interpretation

CFD Interpretation: Standpipe Hose Valves for High-Rise Buildings

Date: September 18, 2015

Code Reference: 2012 North Carolina Fire Code and NFPA 14

Subject:

What are the regulations concerning approved locations for fire department hose valves for standpipe systems in high-rise buildings?

Interpretation:

High-rise buildings previously constructed under the 1996 edition of the North Carolina Building Code required that two hose valves be provided at each floor level for each stairway, one located with-in the stairway, and the other located on the interior of the building and located with-in 5 feet of the stairway door.

That specific requirement is no longer mandated in the building or fire codes, nor in NFPA 14, so one connection located at each level in each stairway will meet the intent of the fire and building codes. *There are however some cases where additional hose valves are required.* Those conditions are:

1. On each side of a wall adjacent to the exit opening of a horizontal exit.
2. In every exit passageway, at the entrance from the exit passageway to other areas of the building.

Exception: *Where these floor areas are reachable from the stairway connection by a 30 foot hose stream from a nozzle attached to 100 feet of hose.*

Additionally, the fire code official is authorized to require additional hose valves where the most remote point of a nonsprinklered floor or story is more than 150 feet from a hose connection, or where the most remote portion of a sprinklered floor or story is more than 200 feet from a hose connection.